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AMMAN, WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24, 1979 — SAFAR 26, 1399

Gromyko disarmament appeal
ROME, Jan. 23 (R)—Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko today made a strong appeal for disarmament and detente on the eve of the opening session of the Geneva disarmament conference. Mr. Gromyko, speaking at a luncheon given in his honour on the first working day of a five-day visit to Italy, said there was no problem his country intended to resolve by force, there was no state against which it had territorial claims and there was no issue it would not discuss around a table. The Soviet Union rejected the idea that humanity could not live without nuclear arms, he said. All that was needed was the political will which was why the Soviet Union attached such importance to the Geneva talks beginning tomorrow, he added.

U.S. to develop new missile
WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (R)—The Pentagon has taken an initial step towards the development of a new intermediate range ballistic missile (IRBM) designed to ease NATO concern about the Soviet SS-20 missile. U.S. Government sources said that an initial study of an advanced IRBM proposed in the defence budget for 1980, announced yesterday, was only one of several options which the Carter administration would consider to counter the Soviet military threat to Western Europe. However, the Pentagon did not identify their options. U.S. Air Force officers noted that the new IRBM could not be deployed for several years. The interim period America would have shown its resolve not to let NATO nations to become hostage to the SS-20.

Atherton achieves compromise formula
JERUSALEM, Jan. 23 (R)—A compromise formula appeared to have been reached in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, which will allow the continuation of the stalled peace process. The Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, confirmed at a meeting in Jerusalem, that the dialogue would follow a week of talks to the need for Israeli relief. In 1976, the Israeli and U.S. special envoy leading the negotiations, Mr. Atherton, met Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Minister Moshe Dayan to discuss the revised draft treaty to the government of President Sadat.

Age-old church
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Hussein returns from Saudi visit

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (Agencies)—His Majesty King Hussein returned home today after a two-day official visit to Saudi Arabia during which he held talks with His Majesty King Khaled Ibn Abdul Aziz and high ranking Saudi officials. The talks, which ended this morning, dealt with "all aspects of those Arab issues of mutual concern to both countries," the Jordan News Agency said. The two leaders also discussed "means of joint action in the framework of coordination and consultation between the two countries," the agency added. King Hussein was accompanied on the visit by a delegation including Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zeid and the Jordanian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia.



King Khaled seeing off King Hussein at Riyadh yesterday.

The Saudi Press Agency said the Saudi King and other Saudi leaders saw the Jordanian monarch off at the Saudi royal desert retreat of Rimah, near Riyadh. Upon arrival at Amman, King Hussein was received by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a number of high ranking officials. The Saudi Press Agency said the Saudi King and other Saudi leaders saw the Jordanian monarch off at the Saudi royal desert retreat of Rimah, near Riyadh. Upon arrival at Amman, King Hussein was received by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a number of high ranking officials.

Arafat heads investigation into Abu Hassan's killing

BEIRUT, Jan. 23 (R)—Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat returned hastily to Beirut today to head inquiries into the car-bomb killing of his senior security aide. Mr. Arafat's Fatah, the biggest commando group, has blamed Israel for the death yesterday of Abu Hassan. The Palestinian leader's return from a conference in Damascus coincided with fresh tension in Lebanon following the assassination and mounting hostilities in the South. Israeli and right-wing Lebanese artillery pounded the southern Lebanese town of Nabatieh for the third successive day and first reports said one person was killed. The Palestinian News Agency WAFSA said the Israelis also shelled three Palestinian camps and the port of Tyre. 24 kilometres north of the Israeli border. Security sources said three people were killed and 12 wounded in the barrage.

Abu Hassan, the code-name of Ali Hassan Salameh, died with four of his bodyguards and several passengers when a remote-controlled bomb in a parked car exploded as they drove past. The dead included a 34-year-old British secretary, Susan Wareham, who was only 100 metres from her home when she died. British officials said today. The 37-year-old Abu Hassan was said by Beirut newspapers to have been Israel's most wanted man. There were widespread fears in Beirut that the assassination would inflame the already tense situation, particularly if the Palestinians retaliated. It was also feared that Abu Hassan's killing could be the start of a series of attempts on the lives of Palestinian leaders. Mr. Arafat's commandos were ordered on full alert overnight as he sped back from Damascus, Palestinian sources said. In southern Lebanon artillery duels following a major Israeli commando raid last Friday appeared to be intensifying. Israeli reports said residents of Metullah, in northern Israel went into underground shelters early today as Katyusha rockets were fired at the settlement for the fifth day running. Later Palestinian and Lebanese officials said the Mediterranean port of Tyre and two nearby Palestinian camps were coming under fire—the first report of such attacks in the latest round of fighting. Israeli gunboats were driven off the Lebanese coast after Palestinian and Lebanese forces intercepted them. WAFSA news agency said.

PLO future uncertain, deadlock ends PNC

DAMASCUS, Jan. 23 (R)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) faced an uncertain future today after its leaders failed to resolve a power struggle between rival commando groups. An eight-day conference of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), the organisation's parliament-in-exile, ended in deadlock over demands by minority groups for a greater say in policy-making. Grim-faced delegates who emerged from a marathon final session early this morning told reporters they had been unable to agree on the composition of a new executive committee, the PLO's supreme body. They said the Council had unanimously adopted a programme for future political and military action, but its execution was thrown in doubt by the deep divisions over power-sharing. The conference decided to retain the existing 15-man committee, which is dominated by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah organisation, to the anger of the smaller but more radical groups. Spokesman for the hard-liners, who indirectly accused Mr. Arafat last year of dictatorship, said Fatah had rejected all proposals which would have weakened its control of the Executive. Yasser Abd Rabbo, a leader of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), told a press conference that all efforts to secure a seat for the Popular Front (PFLP) had failed. The PFLP quit the committee four years ago in protest against its comparatively moderate policies. Mr. Abd Rabbo, the DFLP's only representative on the Executive, said the outcome conflicted with the spirit of unity inherent in the approved political programme. At a separate press conference, Mr. Arafat's senior political adviser Hani Al Hassan rejected the charges of dictatorship and said it was hoped the PFLP could be readmitted to the executive after further consultations. Mr. Al Hassan said: "These accusations are subjective and undemocratic. Fatah enjoys a majority in the National Council, but this does not mean it is guilty of dictatorship."

There was no immediate indication of how the dispute, which set a bloc of all the other groups against Fatah, would affect future Palestinian strategy. Independent Palestinian sources said there was unlikely to be any major changes in policies directed by Mr. Arafat, because Fatah maintained the necessary political and military superiority to ensure they are carried out. Yasser Abd Rabbo, a leader of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), told a press conference that all efforts to secure a seat for the Popular Front (PFLP) had failed. The PFLP quit the committee four years ago in protest against its comparatively moderate policies. Mr. Abd Rabbo, the DFLP's only representative on the Executive, said the outcome conflicted with the spirit of unity inherent in the approved political programme. At a separate press conference, Mr. Arafat's senior political adviser Hani Al Hassan rejected the charges of dictatorship and said it was hoped the PFLP could be readmitted to the executive after further consultations. Mr. Al Hassan said: "These accusations are subjective and undemocratic. Fatah enjoys a majority in the National Council, but this does not mean it is guilty of dictatorship."

As Khomeiny return approaches Bakhtiar under pressure to resign or use army

TEHRAN, Jan. 23 (R)—Iranian Premier Shahpour Bakhtiar today came under fresh pressure to resign and make way for the Shah's chief opponent, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeiny. The exiled spiritual leader is expected to receive an emotional street welcome from millions of supporters when he returns home on Friday. One of his leading associates in Tehran, Dr. Mehdi Bazargan, today urged Dr. Bakhtiar to step down and thereby avoid a confrontation with Ayatollah Khomeiny. The Shah appointed Dr. Bakhtiar premier before leaving Iran a week ago. Dr. Bakhtiar's only alternative to resignation would be to use the armed forces to maintain the present monarchical constitution. Dr. Bazargan told a press conference. There have been signs of fervent army support for the Shah despite recent indications that

some troops might swing to the Ayatollah's side. In the northwestern town of Rezaieh, eight people were reported killed yesterday in clashes between anti-Shah protesters and a small band of soldiers and civilians demonstrating in the monarch's favour. Rezaieh is the third big town where troops have joined in "Javid Shah" (Long Live the Shah) rampages since the Shah left under pressure from huge street demonstrations favourable to the Ayatollah's "Islamic republic".

A group of people held a peaceful demonstration along Tehran's Roosevelt Avenue today, calling for "independence, freedom and the constitution," the official radio said tonight. It did not say how many people took part, but sources said the demonstrators were not carrying any portraits. Instead they held aloft a large Iranian flag, asking motorists to drive beneath it and switch on their headlights as a sign of solidarity. The rally appeared to be the first of its kind in Tehran, with the demonstrators showing their support for the constitution and carrying neither portraits of the Shah nor Ayatollah Khomeiny. The Japanese Embassy in Tehran today advised some 3,900 of its nationals to leave Iran temporarily. Britain said it would fly out about 220 people, among them 100 Americans and 80 Britons. Further evidence of military loyalty to the Shah came from Tehran where the monarch's elite Imperial Guard put on a display of its tanks and anti-aircraft guns for foreign journalists. The reporters were told the soldiers would shed their last drop of blood for the Shah. Dr. Bakhtiar, his government, the Regency Council standing in for the Shah, and the parliament have all faced strong pressure from Ayatollah Khomeiny and his followers to give in or be swept away by the religious leaders' mass support.

Dr. Bazargan, who hinted he would probably be a member of Ayatollah Khomeiny's "revolutionary council", said that even if Dr. Bakhtiar clung to office, he could not govern because his ministers would resign and civil service strikers would not return to work. One member of the Regency Council, Seyed Jalal-eddin Tehrani, has already stepped down, and Dr. Bazargan claimed two others had also done so, but he did not name them. Dr. Bakhtiar has declared that he will not "evacuate the fortress of the constitution." He scheduled a meeting of parliament for tomorrow when he will present bills to abolish the Shah's Savak secret police and press ahead with the trial of former top officials charged with corruption. About 20 members of the Majlis (lower house) have so far resigned, apparently under persistent pressure from Ayatollah Khomeiny. And the only opposition senator, Jalali Naini, resigned from the upper house today, newspapers said. Today's developments were overshadowed by the approaching return of Ayatollah Khomeiny and total uncertainty as to how a collision between Dr. Bakhtiar and the armed forces on one hand, and the religious leader and his millions of street supporters on the other, could be averted. Local religious leaders and senior army officers have met secretly in recent days in an attempt to prevent a collision but no outcome to the talks was announced. One close associate of Ayatollah Khomeiny, Ayatollah Mahmoud Taleghani, has said that if the armed forces intervened in the political process, they would face resistance from the people. In Paris, some 40 Iranian students today occupied their country's consulate, tearing down portraits of the Shah and demanding that he be tried before a revolutionary court. Police who rushed to the scene, but did not immediately intervene said the students were not armed and there were no reports of injuries among consulate personnel. The students, who identified themselves as members of the Union of Iranian Moslem Students in Europe, said they were also calling for an end to foreign intervention in Iran.

Shah defers U.S. visit

MARRAKESH, Morocco, Jan. 23 (R)—The Shah of Iran has decided to postpone his visit to the United States and is expected to be joined by his four children in Morocco, Iranian sources said here today. They said the Shah, who arrived in Marrakesh yesterday from Egypt on the second stage of his "vacation", did not plan to go to the United States for the time being and would stay in Morocco for about a week. His ambassador to Washington and former son-in-law, Ardeshir Zabeti, who gave the first indication last night that the Shah would not go immediately to the U.S., was expected to join the Iranian monarch and Empress Farah in Morocco, the sources said. Travelling with him from the states would be the Shah's children, including his 15-year-old heir, Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi, who is training as a pilot in Texas. There was no confirmation of a report from Cairo that the Shah may return to Egypt after his stay in Morocco and spend most of his vacation there. In an interview with the New York Times, published today, Mr. Zabeti said he had become convinced that despite an official "welcome" sign, the United States did not want the Shah to go there. Mr. Zabeti said he had persuaded the Shah to stay in Morocco at least until Sunday.

Khmer Rouge run short of material

BANGKOK, Jan. 23 (R)—Troops loyal to Prime Minister Pol Pot have launched attacks on Vietnamese-led forces around several major towns in Kampuchea, informed sources said today. They said they believed there was some fighting only 12 kilometres from the capital. But some of the sources said that the level of fighting appeared to be dropping. They said there were signs that Khmer Rouge units were breaking down into smaller units to carry out guerrilla-style harassment of the Vietnamese-led forces that captured almost all vital points in the country in less than a month. The Vietnamese army newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan today accused China of fabricating reports that Mr. Pol Pot's forces were conducting a guerrilla war against the newly-installed pro-Hanoi administration in Phnom Penh. "A psychological warfare campaign is being whipped up by Peking to distort the Kampuchea situation", it said. The sources in Bangkok said they believed that the Khmer Rouge were beginning to run short of ammunition. In another development, Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanand of Thailand, told reporters that the United States had assured Thailand that arms supplies ordered by the Bangkok government will be delivered immediately if the situation requires. Thailand has requested that the weapons be sent as soon as possible, he added. His statement coincided with a Washington announcement yesterday that the U.S. had decided to increase its military assistance to Thailand.

Regional Briefs

BAT, Jan. 23 (R)—The Arab Fund for Technical Assistance began meeting today to examine applications from Arab and African countries for help in a variety of economic development projects. The two-day meeting presided over by diamond Riad, Secretary-General of the Arab League, is the Fund's 11th session. The Fund has so far supplied over 800 grants to Arab and African states and an assistance worth four million dollars, Riad said.

LARTOUM, Jan. 23 (R)—Two U.S. Air Force F-15 fighter jets arrived here today on a four-day courtesy visit to Sudan, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said. Quoting Sudanese Chief of Staff Abdel Magid Khalil, it said the planes would make demonstration flights in Khartoum tomorrow. They have just completed one-week visit to Saudi Arabia, designed to demonstrate American support in the wake of the Iranian crisis.

NAIROBI, Jan. 23 (R)—An Egyptian envoy touring African states said today he had been assured by the African leaders he met that they would not re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel unless a comprehensive Middle East peace formula was found. Mamdouh Salem, Special Assistant to President Sadat, has visited Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and 10 west African countries and will travel to Uganda later this week.

LONDON, Jan. 23 (R)—President Sekou Toure of Guinea arrived in Tripoli today to lead a delegation in talks with senior Libyan government officials, the official Libyan News Agency ANA reported. The President heads a delegation including Prime Minister Louis Lansana Beavogui and the ministers for foreign affairs, education, planning and trade. Talks between the two sides began last night and continued today.

UWAIT, Jan. 23 (R)—Kuwaiti Heir apparent and Premier Sheikh Sabah Al Sabah yesterday chaired a meeting of the country's Supreme Defence Council. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Hussein told reporters the council had discussed a number of military issues, including recruitment in the armed forces. Mr. Hussein gave no further details of the council's discussions which are usually secret.

AGHDAD, Jan. 23 (R)—The Spanish Defence Minister, Gen. Manuel Gutierrez Mellado, left Baghdad today after a four-day official visit. Gen. Gutierrez and his delegations held talks with an Iraqi team led by Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah Talib on ways of developing cooperation between the Spanish and Iraqi armed forces.

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Jordanian-Moroccan trading co. planned with JD 0.6 m. capital

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (JNA)—The Moroccan Minister of Trade and Industry Abdul Kamel Al Raghai said here today that his three-day visit to Jordan enabled Morocco and Jordan to work out a comprehensive plan for developing their bilateral cooperation in a number of fields.

Probably the most important achievement of the visit was the establishment of a joint company for foreign trade with a capital of JD 600,000 to further boost the exchange of trade between the two countries, Mr. Al Raghai said in an interview with the Jordan News Agency shortly before departure today. The agreement, he said, enables Morocco to benefit from Jordan's marketing experience in the Gulf region

while in return Jordan will benefit from Morocco's experience in European countries. Both Morocco and Jordan attach great hopes to the projected Amman-based company which would help overcome current marketing difficulties facing them, Mr. Al Raghai said.

The agreement which was signed here yesterday also provides for cooperation between the two countries in the fields of agriculture, mining, tourism and industry. During his visit here the Moroccan minister met with His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, his Jordanian counterpart Dr. Nijmeddin Dajani and other officials to discuss ways of promoting economic ties between Jordan and Morocco.

National News Roundup

Jordan-Morocco flights to start in April

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (JNA)—The first direct air route between Morocco and Jordan is expected to open sometime in April. The inaugurating of the route is in implementation of a bilateral agreement on transport signed between the two countries in Rabat last year. The agreement organises air transport between the two countries and provides for an exemption by both of customs fees and taxes on profits made by their national airlines.

N. Koreans visit phosphate mines

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (JNA)—The trade delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea led by Deputy Minister of Trade Ho Gyong today visited sites of the Jordan Phosphate Mining Company at Al Hassa and listened to a briefing about the mines' production capacity and expansions being carried out. The Korean delegation which arrived in Amman last Friday on a six-day visit also visited the Port of Aqaba, including the free zone.

Government salaries reach JD 45 million annually

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (J.T.)—According to statistics released by the General Budget Department, the total annual sum paid by the government to its employees amounts to JD 45 million. Government pensioners receive about JD 2 million.

Health centres open in Karak governorate

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (JNA)—Health centres in Qatana, Meab, Um Al Ghuzlan and Imra' of the Karak governorates began functioning today. The four centres, opened recently by Minister of Health Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, provide health services for over 20,000 people.

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Prince Hassan meets ILO director

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (JNA)—His Highness Crown Prince Hassan received here today the visiting Director General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Francis Blanchard.

They discussed programmes and activities of the U.N. organisation and labour migration in the Arab region. Mr. Blanchard stressed that the ILO is concerned with the issue of migration and potential manpower of each country in the region and promised to present the Crown Prince with a full study on the subject.

The ILO has prepared a study on the establishment of a special fund to compensate countries that export manpower, Mr. Blanchard said.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Tourism Gbaleb Barakat, the under-secretary of the Ministry of Labour and the permanent representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Israeli court refuses to stop land expropriation

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (JNA)—Newspapers in the occupied West Bank reported today that the Israeli supreme court yesterday turned down a request by inhabitants of the Arab village of Anata, in the Ramallah district, to bar the Israeli army from expropriating their land.

In its decision the court said the expropriation was carried out for security reasons.

Health scheme under review

AMMAN, Jan. 23 (J.T.)—The government is reportedly planning on reconsidering its projected comprehensive health insurance scheme.

The new step, coming after the introduction of the social security law, is aimed at avoiding conflicting insurance systems in the country. The government plans to employ a number of specialists to conduct studies on this in cooperation with various government departments.

ECONOSCOPE

Income distribution in Jordan

By Jawad Ahmad

This is one of the more difficult topics to talk about, simply because there is insufficient data which could be used as a basis for analysis. Yet, it is vital at this stage to observe this parameter and keep a close watch over its development. Its importance stems from its socio-economic implications, and the fact that it is an implicit indicator of how stable the economy actually is.

Economists have had two divergent opinions on the effect of income distribution on the rate of growth. Keynes, for example, advocated in his early writings that a skewed distribution implied that people with higher incomes would have a higher rate of savings. In the early stages of growth the concept of "double bluff" should prevail; the poorer classes would accept lower incomes provided that the rich ploughed back their extra incomes and thus created job opportunities and better income outlets for the poor.

Other economists believe that a skewed income distribution would affect the total aggregate demand. Thus, the possibility of ploughing the savings of the rich back into the income stream would be minimised. They also believe that the rich will try to use their power in order to maintain the status quo by acquiring monopolistic and oligopolistic powers.

Whether this or the Keynesian group is correct is besides the point. What is actually more important is a more embracing and philosophical outlook. Bad income distribution is nowadays acknowledged to be a socially undesirable phenomenon. It is associated with exploitation, political inequality, and abhorrent poverty. To depend on invisible hands to even things out has proven to be a catastrophically heroic assumption even in the most advanced countries in the world. The Great Depression of the 1930's stands out as a glaring example.

Income distribution in Jordan has been subjected to major external forces which have shaken it to the roots. Examples are the 1948 and 1967 wars and their aftermath and the 1973 oil price crisis and the events which followed thereafter. Yet, one must remember that Jordan is still a fair country in terms of income distribution.

On a sectoral basis, the poorest is the agricultural sector. Less than 30 per cent of the population lives on farm income, although this sector ranges between 15-18 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). The industry is responsible for 15-17 per cent of the GDP, but it employs less than 10 per cent of the workforce. Last, the services sector contributes 60 per cent of the GDP, but employs a per cent of the breadwinners. Thus, the share of the agricultural sector is capped in industry, private trade, banking and services. Government employees capture a share of total income that is their number.

Using a Lorenz curve, the same can be held. The curve measures on one axis the percentage of income, and on the other axis the percentage of population. At any point one can see out how much of the population earns a certain percentage of income.

By extrapolation, I found that the richest 10 per cent of the population in Jordan earns 45 per cent of the total income, the richest 20 per cent earns 88 per cent, the richest 90 per cent earns 10 per cent, and the poorest 10 per cent earns two per cent of the total income. In other words, the average income of the richest 10 per cent is roughly 13 times that of the poorest 10 per cent. Moreover, the middle 20 per cent, the richest 20 per cent, constitute 60 per cent of the population and earn 45 per cent of the income.

Such a distribution is not bad at all approaches that of highly advanced countries. Yet, there are pockets of poverty in the merit, immediate attention. Although distributed fairly in Jordan, the income is acquired from spending that money on the supply side is still fraught with risks and clogs that make the poor and the spend all their income in return for what the rich get for spending the same money.

Thus, redistribution of public funds, control of food prices and easing the burden should occupy the immediate attention of policy makers. Unless we make it possible for limited income groups to enjoy their share by ironing out the problems on the income distribution itself will be unfruitful.

Pot and kettle

There seems to be no end to Israel's hypocrisy: the differences not only between what the Zionist state practices and what it preaches, but also between the grim realities it perpetrates compared with the face it presents to a gullible world.

The latest example of this is the Israeli Olympic Committee's decision, announced on Monday, to sever sporting links with South Africa.

The Tel Aviv-Pretoria axis is a well-known dynamic of world politics. The two states, who both see themselves as surrounded by hostile neighbours and unfairly put upon by an unsympathetic world, have cooperated with each other, openly and not so openly, for a long time. The links between them extend from economic exchanges to military cooperation: Israel has been reported as exporting arms to South Africa.

Beyond this, the two settler states share the policies of oppression which their ruling minorities impose on the original inhabitants of their territories. The apartheid which South Africa practises against its black population is different from the apartheid which Israel practises against its Arab population only in the sense that the South African brand is institutionalised. It is in full awareness of the realities of Israeli practices, since the creation of the Jewish state and particularly now in the occupied territories, that the world community has branded Zionism as a form of racism.

Like South Africa, Israel presents itself to the world as a model democracy and bastion of freedom, even as a paradigm of multi-racialism, while practising the most blatant forms of oppression and discrimination against its Arab population.

The latest action of its Olympic committee is another attempt to confuse world opinion. It is also the height of hypocrisy.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'AT's editorial Tuesday follows up His Majesty King Hussein's latest visit to Saudi Arabia, following his recent trip to Damascus, for talks with the Saudi leaders to "consolidate the unified Arab attitude which evolved from the ninth Baghdad summit, and to review the Arab situation vis-a-vis the panorama of the Arab-Zionist dispute."

At the same time the newspaper highlights King Hussein's latest statements to the U.S. Time Magazine in which he underlined the basic principles on which peace in the Middle East should be established. In his interview with Time the King reiterated his call for convening a new Geneva conference where the crisis would be debated by all parties concerned.

AL DUSTOUR meanwhile devotes its editorial to defending the burgeoning Islamic movement in Iran, led by Ayatollah Khomeini, which was "mistakenly and ill-intentionally described by non-Muslim quarters, particularly the Jewish press, as an imminent threat to western civilisation and to the Soviet Union's interests at the same time." The newspaper urges the world mass media to try to understand this movement and give an impartial judgement. It says the Iranian Islamic movement, like similar movements in other Muslim countries, is an attempt to assert the national personality of the Muslim states where peoples are seeking their right to justice, freedom and national independence within the concepts of Islam and far away from bigotry.

WHAT'S GOING ON

English Film

The British Council presents a film by Ronald Neame entitled "The Horse's Mouth" starring Alec Guinness. The film starts at 6:00 p.m. and tickets reserving entry are available all day before the start of the film from the reception desk.

Documentary Films

The Spanish Cultural Centre is showing a repeat of two films: "Aqui Espana" (English version), and "Noche en los jardines de Espana" which is a musical documentary of Manuel de Falla's work of the same name. The films start at 6:30 p.m.

TODAY'S WEATHER

The weather will be partly cloudy with slight and variable winds. In Aqaba there will be northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Temperatures	Overnight minimum	Daytime maximum
Amman	0	11
Aqaba	11	21
Jordan Valley	10	18
Deserts	0	12

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Jordan Valley Authority of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, invites firms or joint ventures of firms to submit bids for the supply of the following:

1. Two fork-lift trucks with a lifting capacity of 2,000 kg at 50 cm load center.
2. Twenty clamp trucks for manual transport of produce field boxes.
3. 50,000 P.V.C. produce field boxes.
4. Twenty produce weighing scales with a maximum capacity of 200 kg.
5. 1,000 heavy duty multiple-use pallets
6. One, 50 metric ton bridge scale.

The location of the project is at Al Arda in the centre of the Jordan Valley, approximately 60 km. from Amman. All roads leading to the site are in good condition in all seasons.

The firm to whom a contract may be awarded will be paid in the designated currency of the bidder. This project will be financed jointly by the Government of Jordan and the Government of the Netherlands.

The Bid Documents are available for purchase at the Jordan Valley Authority, P.O. Box 2769, Amman, Jordan, for a sum of J.D. 5 (for one copy) or its equivalent in a freely convertible foreign currency. No refunds will be made.

The executed bids shall be delivered to the address shown below not later than noon (local time) on March 25, 1979.

The President
 Jordan Valley Authority
 P.O. Box 2769
 Amman, Jordan

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Jordan Valley Authority of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, invites firms or joint ventures of firms to submit bids for the supply and install the following:

1. A round and flat-round tomato grading packing "Line" with a dumping capacity of four tons per hour.
2. A round and flat-round tomato grading packing "Line" with a capacity of four tons per hour.
3. Two conveyor-belt lines for the grading packing of eggplant, cucumber, squash, sweet pepper with a dumping capacity of four tons per hour each.

"Line" shall be understood to mean an integral and fully operable equipment series, supplied with all accessories, electric motors etc., to be grading and packing of produce in an efficient manner.

The location of the project is at Al-Arda in the centre of the Jordan Valley, approximately 60 km. from Amman. All roads leading to the site are in good condition in all seasons.

The firm to whom a contract may be awarded will be paid in the designated currency of the bidder. This project will be financed jointly by the Government of Jordan and the Government of the Netherlands.

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The President
 Jordan Valley Authority
 P.O. Box 2769
 Amman, Jordan

Price fixing to protect the consumer: Is it a good idea?

By Rene R. Farraj
The Jordan Times

Nearly 5,000 consumers were reported by the Supply last year, the price control section at Mr. Ahmad Hadid, sent interview.

Amman Municipality, to fix the prices of vegetables and fruits for that day. Last year the ministry, in an effort to stabilise prices, requested shopkeepers to affix prices to the commodities on sale. Prices in restaurants, were also fixed.

The ministry has five cars, with two price controllers in each, constantly patrolling the city. There are also price controllers in different regions.

Penalties differ from one case to the other. Usually the shop is closed for one month; in extreme

cases, it might be closed down for three months. Fines range between JD 50 and JD 200.

In case of light contraventions, the price controller serves a notice to the shopkeeper. If he is found later to persist in the contravention, he is fined. Mr. Hadid believes that penalties are effective, although not completely.

"Only limited cooperation exists between the ministry and the citizens, especially housewives. They want to be on good terms with the shopkeepers who provide them with good quality products.

Consumers should call the ministry whenever they notice any violations," he said.

Mr. Yousef Anani, head of the prices and quality control department of the Ministry of Supply, said that the ministry's main objective is to ensure the availability of all consumer items to all citizens, of good qualities and at reasonable prices after allowing for legitimate profit for the merchants.

To meet this objective, the ministry is obliged to act as the sole importer of some essential commodities, such as flour, sugar and wheat. It also acts as an importer of commodities such as meat and rice but competes with merchants on the open market in such cases. For example, when Spanish rice was being sold at 350 fils per kilo, the ministry imported Egyptian rice and sold it at 155 fils. The ministry was also behind the establishment of the civil servants' cooperative organisations in order to reduce the financial burden on government employees whose income is limited to their salaries.

Shopkeepers who have been penalised by the Ministry of Supply for charging excessive prices believe that price fixing will not solve the problem. One shopkeeper said: "I swear, after every contravention I get I am going to raise my prices to compensate for the loss."

Another shopkeeper said: "Sometimes the ministry is right in fining those who violate the rules, but we cannot refrain from selling some items at high prices because we are concerned with providing our customers with good quality, which usually means relatively high prices."

Most grocers agree that grading and packing in standardised boxes is necessary if prices are to be fixed. They demand that the Ministry of Supply set fair prices, re-institute the committee entrusted with the fixing of prices (which included representatives of the Ministry of Supply, the Ministry of Agriculture and grocers) and finally, for the government to appoint better qualified and more experienced price controllers.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Mohammad Ali Bdeir, Chairman of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, said that he was a firm believer in free market conditions, where competition reduces and fixes the prices of

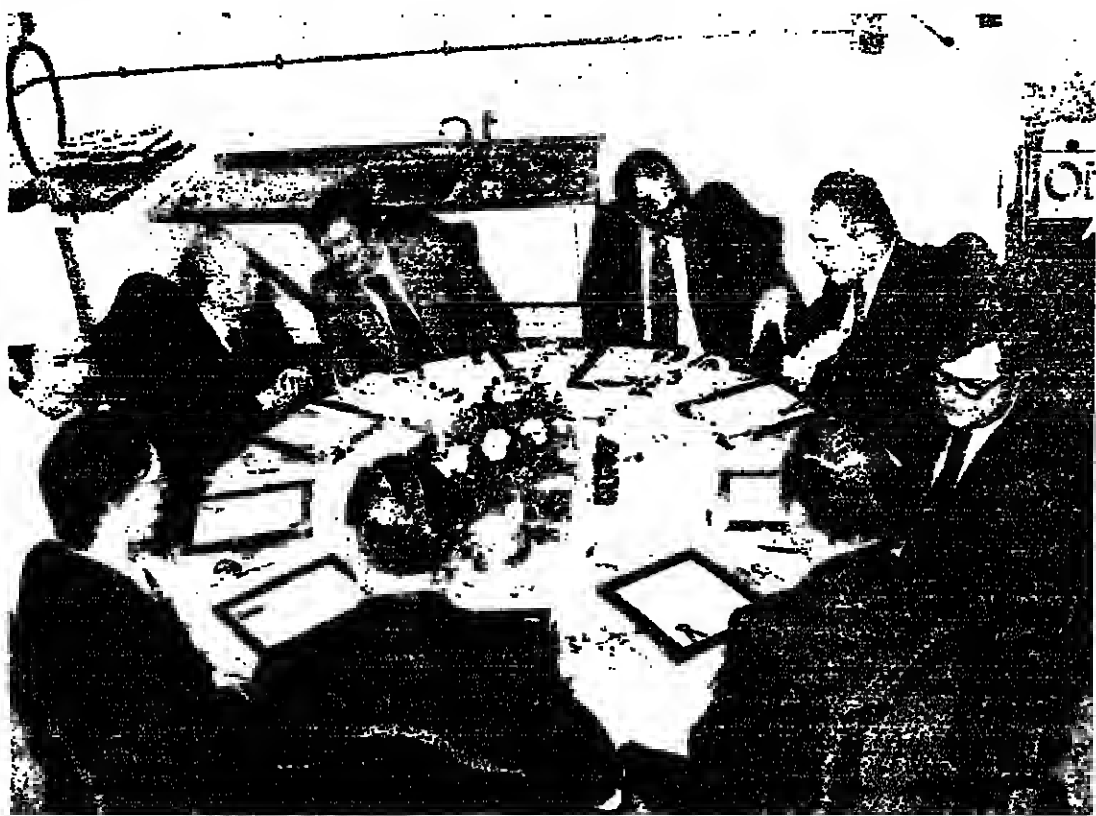
consumer items. He said experience has clearly shown that whenever prices are fixed, either as a result of nationalisation or to protect a certain industry, prices tend to go down at the beginning, but slowly creep up as the product becomes firmly established. Under free market conditions, whenever prices go up, there is always an entrepreneur who will attempt to capture the market by introducing a product from a new source and with a lower price, thus reducing prevailing prices, he said.

With regard to the price of foodstuffs, especially fruits and vegetables, Mr. Bdeir believes in a unified Arab market wherein such commodities are exchanged freely throughout the year, and not just on a seasonal basis. The present practice is for each country to restrict exports whenever there is a drop in the supply of the product, so as to maintain the price level and protect the consumer. The practice is also to restrict imports to avoid a sharp drop in prices in order to protect farmers. This stop-go policy practised by the Arab countries provides momentary relief, but adversely affects the general trend towards a unified and homogeneous price.

Mr. Bdeir believes that the rise in standards of living in Jordan is being translated into higher consumption, which in itself is forcing prices upwards.

When asked about price contraventions, Mr. Bdeir said: "I believe that every violator deserves punishment. It is not the business of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce to defend violations. However, the federation has requested the government several times to transfer the contraventions to civil courts, as this enables the violators to better defend themselves, but no response has been received to this request."

Concerning the cooperative organisations set up by the Ministry of Supply, Mr. Bdeir said: "These cooperatives no doubt have been a help to government employees and the army: they sell at lower prices because the cooperatives' products are bought in bulk and are exempted from government taxes." However, Mr. Bdeir said, in order to have a fair deal, all limited income employees should be allowed to use these cooperatives. They should not be restricted to government employees.



The kitchen of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel may sound like an unusual venue for Amman's most exclusive dining club, but it was there at lunchtime on Monday that a select gathering of local gourmands was able to sample a full range of delights prepared by the experienced hand of the hotel's Executive Chef, Mr. Jaroslav Mueller. The idea for this "Chef's Table," which could become an Amman fixture, was that of Jordan Hotel General Manager, Mr. Robert Moesker, who served as the

De gustibus...

most accommodating host in the spotless surroundings of the hotel kitchen. The lucky guests dined on a seven-course meal graced by no fewer than four fine wines (including a 1970 Mouton Rothschild flown in specially for the occasion). In the picture above, the round table participants, clockwise from Mr. Mueller (extreme left, in white chef's hat) are: the Romanian Ambassador, Mr. Vasile Gandila; Mr. Ayman Majali of the protocol

section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the American Ambassador, Mr. Nicholas A. Veltest; the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mr. Ghaleb Barakat; Mr. Moesker; Mr. Basel Jarandach, chairman of the board of the Jordan Hotels and Tourism Company, Ltd., owners of the Intercontinental; (foreground, back to camera), the Italian Ambassador, Marchese Fabrizio Rossi Longhi; and Jordan Times Editor William F. Lee. Below, Mr. Mueller welcomes Mr. Barakat and Ambassador Rossi Longhi to his kitchens.



UNRWA to take punitive action against striking employees

The Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

Jan. 24—A statement by representatives of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said that the agency would deduct wages from the hours in which employees were absent.

A personnel in Jordan, Amman, the West Bank and Gaza have been observing work stoppages over the months to protest what they see as reductions in their pay in UNRWA services.

The strike emerged from the half hour meeting, yesterday, between representatives of employees and Mr. McElhiney, Commissioner of UNRWA, and in Amman two days later, spending the day on the streets, the agency employees.

The spokesman for the employees said that Mr. McElhiney denied that local newspapers that he UNRWA ration would be reduced. He insisted that the food ration and that flour ration would be kept the same, the spokesman said.

Unless we hear Mr. McElhiney made it clear, the spokesman said, that the UNRWA was meeting with UNRWA

employees that the administration was ready to study the possibility of transferring its headquarters to the Middle East if the necessary facilities are offered to them by the Arab governments, the spokesman added.

Before leaving to the West Bank today, Mr. McElhiney promised that he would be back for talks before Feb. 10, the day set by UNRWA employees to start an open strike unless their demands are met.

Representatives of employees from all countries where UNRWA operates decided to meet in Amman on Feb. 1-3 to study the situation and means of carrying out the open strike which will start on Feb. 10. They will also discuss the agency's position before holding any further negotiations with them. A brief statement will be released before the end of the first week of February, explaining the employees' position.

Today's statement called on all employees to adhere to their demands and went on to say that:

"The administration still insists on reducing services offered to Palestinian refugees.

"The agency plans to eliminate the preparatory stage at UNRWA schools if it fails to meet its

budgetary deficit, although UNRWA will try its best to avoid this.

Mr. McElhiney acknowledged that UNRWA representatives who came to Amman earlier to discuss the employees' demands, had been wrong to insist on discussing the compatibility study conducted by UNRWA before discussing the employees' demands.

Mr. McElhiney stated that discussions based on the 1977 memorandum of understanding, without any preconditions are the only acceptable means now for reaching an understanding between the agency and its employees.

Mr. McElhiney considers his present meetings with employees' representatives as exploratory, and will decide in the light of his tour whether to hold a meeting between employees' representatives and the administration as soon as possible, on the basis of the memorandum of understanding, which he will try to attend personally.

Mr. McElhiney acknowledged that the employees' representatives are not bound to accept the compatibility study, which compares UNRWA and local salary scales.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

COMPANY	Par value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	1,566	—	6,570	6,550
Cement Factories	JD 10,000	3,687	—	14,600	14,400
Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5,000	505	16,750	16,850	16,850
Bank of Jordan	JD 1,000	2,300	1,150	1,180	1,150
Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	475	1,750	1,800	1,760
Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	2,281	1,060	1,070	1,050
Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	462	1,820	1,880	1,850
Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	330	1,340	1,350	1,340
Ceramic Industries	JD 1,000	760	0,950	0,970	0,950
Glass Factories	JD 1,000	91	—	—	0,760
Aluminium Co.	JD 1,000	186	0,920	0,940	0,930
Commercial And Industrial Co.	JD 1,000	212	2,510	2,600	2,500
Lime and Silicate Brick	JD 5,000	534	—	—	4,450
of Jordan	JD 5,000	3,276	7,200	7,300	7,200
Amman Bank	JD 5,000	1,340	—	—	6,700
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	219	0,730	0,740	0,730
Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	92	—	0,790	0,750

Volume traded, Tuesday, Jan. 23: 18,316
Number of shares traded: 7,856

COMPANY	Par value	Volume Traded	Number	Year of maturity	Selling price
Government Development Bonds	JD 5,000	1,455	290	1982	5,030

Volume traded: JD 1,455

LOCAL

EXCHANGE

RATES

U.S. dollar	294.00/296.00
U.K. sterling	589.00/593.00
West German mark	159.40/160.40
Swiss franc	175.50/176.60
French franc	69.40/69.80
Italian lire (for every 100)	35.20/35.40
Japanese yen (for every 100)	148.70/149.60
Dutch guilder	147.80/148.70
Belgian franc (for every ten)	101.00/101.60
Swedish crown	67.60/68.00

FLAT WANTED

One bedroom furnished flat required in good area for a mature Scottish gentleman on three-year contract.

Please reply P.O. Box 14, Amman, Jordan.

THE PUB

Enjoy a drink at your local pub and don't forget to bring your darts.

SHEPHERD HOTEL

Jabal Amman 39197
39198

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Salesgirl wanted for employment in

"Original Stereo Cassette Center."

Contact manager: 1st Floor,
New Jordan Insurance Bldg.
3rd Circle, Jabal Amman

Big Sale!!

Buy 5, get one free tape at Original Stereo Cassette Center. Saturday Night Fever, Grease, Elton John, Baccara, Rolling Stones, Jethro Tull, Disco Music and many many more on Cassette at: Original Stereo Cassette Center 1st floor, New Jordan Ins. Bldg. 3rd Circle, Jabal Amman.

THE AMMAN PLAYERS

The American Women of Amman present a dinner theater
An Excerpt From "Plaza Suite" by Neil Simon
Wednesday, Jan. 31 7:30 p.m.
Jordan Intercontinental Hotel ballroom
Tickets: JD 3,500 per person include theater and buffet dinner.
Tickets available at Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, 161 Ext. 5, or from American Women's Club members.

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History in Jordan: The lay of the land

Land and Routes: Part One

This is a series of articles in which Professor Nicola A. Zideh will present to our readers not what happened in Jordan, from the Old Stone Age to the present, but how it happened and why. Although historical events as such will not be neglected, the emphasis will be more on the cultural development of the country during those long centuries. The articles will not be completely void of technical treatment, but this will be so minimal that it will not tax our readers.

History is the result of interaction, over centuries, between the land, any land, and the human agents which occupy it. If one is to differentiate between the two elements, one is inclined to refer to the land as the constant element, while the human element should be considered the variable—and in the case of Jordan and the neighbouring countries, this has really been variable, both in space and time.

Considering the constant element—the land—first we can easily see that Jordan is divided into physically distinct parts. In the north there is the area of Ajlun, which enjoys a relatively heavier rainfall, resulting from the fact that it is open to the winds which come from the Mediterranean through the gap of Marj ibn Amir (Biblical Israhel) in

northern Palestine. The area, with its vales and crests, has some forests: it is a land of fruit trees and vegetables. From an aeroplane one can discern numerous spots where verdure prevails throughout the year. Irbid, Ajlun and Jerash are the centres of population concentrations.

To the north the Ajlun region is an extension of the southern reaches of Syria; to the south the valley of Zarka indicates the change. For between this valley and the Mujib (Arnon) lies the land of Moab (Balqa) which is a series of plateaux, with less rainfall than the Ajlun region, and with cereals as the basic agricultural production.

Moab has always been the local granary of Jordan: and a failure of the crops here meant hunger, if not famine, especially at times when transport posed a serious problem to the authorities. Madaba is by far the largest town here.

Between the Mujib and the valley of al-Hasa lies the land known in earlier times as Edom, with Karak, Shawbak and Tafilah as the main towns.

To the south of al-Hasa we reach areas which are arid or semi-arid. The mountains are rugged: the flat areas are steppes. Rainfall decreases as one moves south. The eastern branch of the mountains, known as ash-Sharah, joins the northern stretches of the Hijaz, while in the central part there is a sudden descent of the Gulf of Aqaba. At best some agriculture is pursued where

springs, better described as oases, are found. Otherwise the area provides some grazing ground in the winter and early spring.

Altogether the areas just mentioned descend precipitously towards the Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea and the Arabah Valley, from north to south. On the eastern side, on the other hand, the descent is gradual and the land loses itself into the desert.

Throughout its earlier recorded history Jordan witnessed the existence of city-kingdoms, which more often than otherwise, coincided with the physical divisions just given. But this did not mean that the valleys were actual barriers between one part of the country and another. For, again, throughout history, routes connected those parts. There is, in the first place, the "King's Highway", which began near Irbid (in continuation of a route which started in Damascus) and went south via Jerash, Salt (but rarely Amman) then to Madaba, Karak and Shawbak to the Gulf of Aqaba.

This was mostly used by merchants: the guiding principle being the existence of water en route, the most copious of which has always been Salt. Merchants followed this route for another reason — it provided them with pivotal connections (see below) for fairs and markets, and thus an exchange of merchandise was possible.

A parallel route started at Bosra (southern Syria) and followed the margin of the desert and steppes. The main stations were Mafrq,

Amman, Mushatta (Mshatta), Qatraneh and Ma'an. From this last place one route bifurcated to Aqaba, while the other continued to the Hijaz via Mudawwarah. This route grew in importance after the advent of Islam, as it became the Pilgrims' Route.

The Jordan Valley provided people with a convenient route from its central parts to the areas of Lake Tiberias. To the south of the Dead Sea people's direction has been, almost always, to the south—to the Gulf of Aqaba and the Red Sea.

For the sake of understanding another set of routes which crossed the land from east to west, one has to keep in mind that Palestine, which is separated from Jordan only by the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, had its own south-north route axis. This is the coastal road which connected Egypt with Lebanon and Syria.

The Via Maris, as it was known, followed the coastal plains of Palestine from Gaza to the north of Tulkarem, where the coastal plain becomes narrower, and where the route takes an almost sharp turn to the east, and gradually descends gently towards Marj ibn Amir near Tell al-Mutasattim (ancient Megiddo).

Here it meets another route which crosses the crests of Palestine from the south via al-Khalil (Hebron), Jerusalem, Nablus and Jenin. Yet another route, from the northern reaches of the Jordan Valley, joins the former two routes. The convergence of routes on this plain gives it an important place as a crossroads—for from it routes go to Acre, southern Lebanon (Tyre and Sidon), the Biga Vale towards Baalbek, and, last but not least, to Damascus (via the north of Lake Tiberias, alias Sea of Galilee).

Jordan has a number of routes which cross it from east to west. In the north there is the Mafrq-Irbid track, which connects the country with Iraq eastwards, and, descending westwards towards the Jordan Valley, provides travellers, eventually, with contact with Marj ibn Amir. Then there is the Amman-Salt route to Jerusalem and Nablus and towns beyond.

Madaba and Karak are connected with Jerusalem and al-Khalil. But probably one of the most important set of routes is that which traverses southern Jordan and southern Palestine, thus forming a link between northern Hijaz and Gaza and its immediate neighbours, as well as Egypt.

One has to keep in mind also the Wadi Sirhan, with its oases, which connects the central parts of Jordan, from the neighbourhood of Azraq, with the very heart of the north Arabian Peninsula.

It is considered by scholars that most of the tribes that migrated from Arabia into Jordan followed this Wadi. Yet another route starts at Kilwa in the south and connects Jordan with al-Jawf.

In the land of Jordan man was already active in times immemorial. Should one think of man's activities in the form of a drama, one is bound to think of it as acts or parts. There is a dividing line which falls about 3200 B.C.; the era before it is known as pre-history, and the times after that date are called the historical period.

The introduction of the use of bronze for the manufacture of tools, implements and weapons is the main criterion for this division; but there are criteria which will reveal themselves as the events are narrated.

The prehistoric period is

labelled the Stone Age, and this in turn is divided respectively into three ages: the Paleolithic (Old Stone), beginning from 500,000 B.C. or even earlier; the Mesolithic (Middle Stone) from about 12000 (or 10000) down to about 7000 B.C.; and the Neolithic (New Stone) from c. 7000 to 4000 B.C.

Sometime about 4000 B.C. man introduced the use of copper into the use of his implements. But this did not supersede the use of stone; rather they were used contemporaneously. The name given to this one thousand years or so is Chalcolithic.

The Bronze Age which began c. 3200 B.C. lasted till c. 1200 B.C. when the Iron Age was ushered in. So much for the stage and the acts of the drama. But what about the actors? Where did the people who played the first parts of the drama come from? The question has been, and is likely to be for long, unanswerable. Remains of very early human beings, going back to thousands and thousands of years, have been found in the neighbourhood of Mount Carmel,

of Nazareth and of Lake Tiberias. Scholars have even gone as far as finding some physical resemblances between some of these and the Neanderthal man of Europe. But it is safer, and more prudent, just to say at present that man occupied the land and utilized some of its resources from time immemorial.

Historians and archaeologists talk of the achievements of this early man and his cultures as have been dug in various places, without committing themselves to any specific racial groupings.

By about 3200 B.C. the situation changes considerably. Traces of people migrating into Jordan, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, as well as into the Lands of the Twin Rivers become discernable. The label Semitic has been given to these various peoples, although there is no agreement amongst scholars as to where the original home of the Semites was.

For the time being the popularly accepted idea, which may not be the soundest, is that in their historical role the Semitic peoples,

migrated from the Arabian Peninsula.

At the head of the chronological list of the peoples that migrated to the Syrian lands are the Canaanites who drifted in c. 3000 B.C. and of whom the Phoenicians were a prominent segment. The second arrivals were the Amorites, probably about 2000 B.C. These were followed by the Arameans, middle of the second millennium B.C. Contemporary with them were the Ammonites. The list could be enlarged to a great extent, but it is advisable to leave details until they are needed.

One cannot, however, even in an introductory note, leave out the Nabateans of Petra c. 300 B.C. and the Ghassanids of central Jordan and Golan c. A.D. 400. These were the first authentically accepted Arab peoples to establish states in Jordan and parts of Palestine. Minor groups moved to southern and coastal Palestine about the same time.

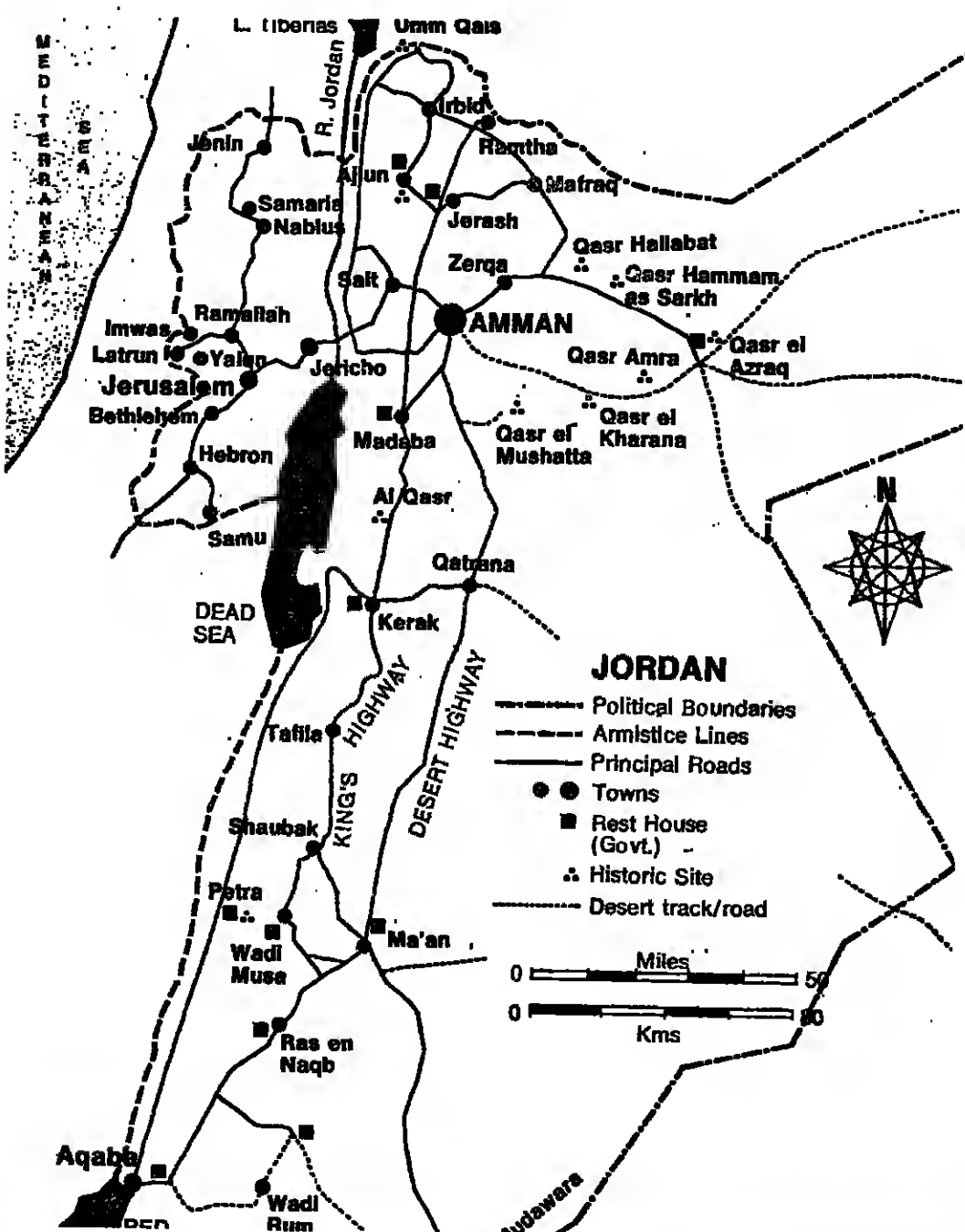
The Arab conquest of the area

in the 7th century A.D. was the way for more Arabians to Jordan, Palestine and Syria.

Man could move easily from one place to another, laden with belongings, or as a trader, who carried goods from one place to another, a beast of burden.

The earliest beast known to the area was the donkey. Early caravans were laden with asses. It was sometime in the 1st century B.C., or thereabouts, that the horse arrived in the area, coming from the north lands. About 1500 B.C. the horse was domesticated.

The horse was used extensively as a beast of burden. The caravans which had on the donkey shifted to the horse when it became available. The arrival of the camel for more merchandise, tried, effected changes in routes, and more importantly, made the desert a more formidable enemy with a reckoned.



He has a thing with trees



NUREMBERG, West Germany — This exhibition focuses attention on one of the most individualistic German sculptors of the present. The artist, now forty and a student under Robert Jacobsen from 1960 to 1965, is not in the limelight of the West German art scene, but just the same has acquired a specific image and a degree of importance. He attained his special position

mainly by seeking renewed contact with nature in his work, a rarity among present-day sculptors. With his sculptures Jacobsen wants to create perspectives on nature, its growth structures and its architectural principles. Much of his work is redolent of tree trunks even if they bear such abstract titles as "Organic Vegetative" or "G.I.A.C.O." (photo). The latter

is nothing less than homage paid to the Swiss sculptor Giacometti. Wortelkamp is, as it were, obsessed by the idea of trees. He sees them realized even in things like high-rise buildings. He goes as far as setting up his tree sculptures in forests, as a meaningful answer of man to nature. The material Wortelkamp prefers using is iron, the working of which he is a master. "I

can do anything I wish with iron" he says. His trees are not of one moulded rather welded together individual elements, and the multifariousness of nature. The international art scene, aware of the sculptor, who has taken his inspiration from it (INP)

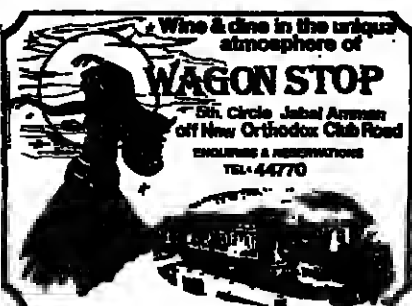
AMMAN MARKET PLACE

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U.S. State of Union address expected to include SALT appeal

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (R) -- President Carter goes before Congress tonight to deliver a State of the Union address expected to include an appeal for approval of a new Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) treaty with the Soviet Union.

Officials said he would try to overcome Senate misgivings over SALT II even before completion of the treaty by stressing that the budget he submitted yesterday increases defence spending by ten per cent to \$122.7 billion in 1980.

Mr. Carter, in his speech, will discuss the need to improve relations with the Soviet Union and

the opening of normal relations with China, as well as his urgent request for congressional cooperation with his programme to control inflation.

Another key issue was how he proposed to deal with world troubles, especially the turmoil in Iran.

Mr. Carter's decision to seek support for a new SALT accord

while the United States and the Soviet Union are still haggling over final details was aimed at blunting serious reservations already voiced by some powerful senators.

Opponents of the proposed accord, which will build on the first SALT agreement signed in 1972, remain to be convinced that the president is not giving too much away to the Russians.

Mr. Carter apparently hopes that the defence portion of his overall \$531.6 billion budget will convince SALT opponents that he does not intend to permit the United States to become militarily inferior to Moscow.

In an unprecedented decision, the president decided to deliver his State of the Union address to Congress after submitting his budget. This gives him another opportunity to defend the boost in military expenditures while cutting social welfare programmes.

Officials said he would tell Americans that the state of the union was good but there must be strong support for his austerity budget if inflation is to be controlled.

The relatively conservative Congress elected last November is expected to share Mr. Carter's mood of frugality, but several members have given notice they will try to switch money from defence to social programmes without increasing overall spending in 1980.

UAE to maintain oil output with potential for increase

ABU DHABI, Jan. 23 (R) -- United Arab Emirates (UAE) petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Mana Al Oteiba said yesterday his country would maintain its oil production of 1.85 million barrels a day, the official Emirates News Agency reported.

Addressing a symposium on planning and economic development, held here, the agency quoted Dr. Oteiba as saying the UAE was working to develop and improve its oilfields to face any

eventuality of increasing production in future.

He said, according to the agency, his country's crude reserves could enable it to produce 3.25 million barrels a day if required.

Speaking of last month's decision by OPEC to increase this year's oil price by 14.5 per cent, Dr. Oteiba said the decision was reasonable and would not harm world economy, the agency reported.

U.S. sues cult connected with Guyana mass suicide

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (R) -- The U.S. Government yesterday sued the Peoples Temple of California for more than \$4.2 million to cover the cost of flying back from Guyana the bodies of more than 900 sect members who died in a mass murder suicide in November.

The suit, filed in U.S. district court in San Francisco and announced here, alleged that the leader of the church, the Rev. Jim Jones, "did intentionally, negligently or through wilful and wanton conduct abet or cause the deaths."

He--and by extension, the church he served--failed to protect church followers from unnecessary injury or death, the suit charged.

"Because of the failure of the defendant Peoples Temple... to perform its duties," the complaint said, the U.S. Government "for reasons including public health, safety and decency, did perform such acts with the intent to be paid therefor."

The costs had already passed the \$4 million mark and were expected to go higher, the suit said.

The cult leader was among the dead but the suit is likely to be challenged by his followers who remained in California when he established the Guyana commune.

Italy reports 2 more added to kidnap total

LOCRI, Italy, Jan. 23 (R) -- Two separate abductions at opposite ends of Italy yesterday brought the country's kidnap total to seven in the past two weeks, police said.

Dr. Francesco Morgante, 61, chief surgeon at the state hospital in this town in the toe of Italy, was snatched by a gang waiting for him in a car as he left the hospital yesterday evening.

At almost the same moment, in the northern city of Brescia, Enrico Gnutti, 31, co-owner of a large ball-bearing factory, was abducted by four men in a car

which swerved in front of him as he drove home.

Mr. Gnutti, as a wealthy industrialist, was a typical target of the professionally-organised kidnap gangs of northern Italy.

Dr. Morgante is a leading local official of the ruling Christian Democratic Party, but police believe his kidnapping was probably for ransom rather than politically motivated.

By contrast with the seven abductions so far in 1979, only one person had been kidnapped by this time last year.

America's economic squeeze

By Ronald Cocking

WASHINGTON: Worries about energy, taxes, the slumping dollar and the possibility of high inflation this year took the edge off American New Year celebrations.

For businessmen, the only bright spot on the horizon this year is the prospect of greatly increased trade with China following the resumption of full diplomatic ties, although conservative economic experts are already warning that America's share of the new trade bonanza may be much less than some expect.

But the U.S. has already doubled its trade with China over the

past year to about \$1 bn., with the optimists forecasting this figure to treble in the next two or three years.

The pessimists on the other hand are wondering where China is to get the foreign exchange to finance the multi-billion dollar trade expansion she is now discussing, at least in the short term.

On the domestic front, the price of petrol continues to creep up, and is expected to reach \$1 per gallon before too long.

While this is cheap by European standards, it has to be realised that 20 miles per gallon (mpg) is still considered economical fuel consumption in the U.S. A Baltimore police official, for example, told me the city's fleet averages only 8 mpg, or 8.8 mpg in British terms,

allowing for the smaller U.S. gallon.

With a public transport system largely destroyed by the private car, a housewife even in a large city may find herself dependent on a car to bring home the family groceries, given the geographical sprawl of American communities.

On the tax front, politicians in Congress are all talking economy and elimination of waste in government. This attitude has been forced on them by two events.

One was the success of the widely-publicised Proposition 13 in California, which slashed property taxes. The other was the mid-term Congressional elections last November, which returned many conservatives to the House of Representatives, and signalled the widespread discontent with ever-mounting taxes at all levels of government.

However, the success of Proposition 13 has turned out to be more apparent than real. California's state expenditure have in fact increased in real terms, with the bureaucrats using ingenious measures to get around the loss of revenue from property taxes.

For example, one apartment building owner who saved \$1,800 annually from the tax slash has just received another bill for \$1,600 -- for fire protection of his property.

Some communities, struggling to keep services following the sudden cutoff of funds, are asking taxpayers to give more vol-

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Weather, stoppages add to U.K. misery

LONDON, Jan. 23 (R) -- Blizzard-swept Britain struggled through the grimmest day of its strike-crisis with no end in sight to weeks of industrial unrest today.

Arctic weather, a national rail strike and numerous wildcat stoppages added to the mounting misery inflicted by the lorry drivers' dispute. Pay negotiations aimed at ending a three-week strike by truckers broke down after nine hours of discussions late last night. Both sides predicted a prolonged battle lay ahead.

Thousands of the 1.5 million low-paid workers who staged a one-day protest strike yesterday stayed away from their jobs. Ambulance services were in disarray in several parts of the country: hundreds of schools were closed and in some areas treacherously icy highways were left ungrimed.

Senior cabinet ministers met to review again whether to declare a state of emergency and call in troops to move essential supplies.

As they sat down at 10 Downing Street, there was the announcement that unemployment had soared by 90,968 during the past month to 1,455,275 -- 6.1 per cent of the work force.

Many Britons found it impossible to get to their jobs. Freezing rain followed by heavy snow carpeted southern England, crippling road transport.

For the third time this month, train drivers campaigning for a ten per cent "responsibility bonus" were on a one-day strike and London's underground rail services were disrupted by the weather.

The capital's Heathrow Airport was closed most of the day by snow and Manchester Airport shut because one key worker, a watchkeeper in the fire control office, went on holiday. Unions

who are on a go-slow insisted the stoppage was not planned.

Limited ambulance services were operating in several counties and in London, drivers debated whether to call an indefinite strike.

Yesterday troops in old-fashioned army ambulances and police were mobilised to take the place of civilian drivers who refused to answer even emergency calls.

Prime Minister James Callaghan, facing the toughest crisis since he took office, once again appealed to trade unions not to fuel inflation and unemployment by making huge pay claims.

Speaking at a conference at the Trades Union Congress (TUC) headquarters, he said: "In the last analysis it is rank and file trade unionists who can ensure that we do not plunge once more over the abyss." He said some workers were asking for far more than the economy could sustain and there was a limit to what the government could do.

Employment officials said between 175,000 and 200,000 workers had been laid off because the lorry drivers' strike has throttled supply lines. They warned the figure would rise sharply this week.

The truckers--who want a 22 per cent wage rise--started unofficial action on Jan. 2 and their strike was declared official by unions nine days later. Since then more than 100,000 drivers have been striking and pickets have blockaded ports, factories and store depots.

Adding to the confusion today were a spate of unofficial stoppages by public authority employees, among them hospital porters, road workmen, school caretakers and laundry staff.

Anti-abortionists assemble in U.S. capital

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (R) -- Some 60,000 anti-abortion demonstrators paraded in chill weather yesterday to mark the three anniversary of America's most vocal political issue--a U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalising abortion.

The parade of anti-abortion "pro-life" groups from throughout the nation stretched almost the entire 3.2 kms. from Congress to the White House.

Congressman Robert Baumann, a Maryland democrat,

drew cheers from thousands of "pro-lifers" at the capitol as he denounced the Supreme Court ruling as its "most odious" decision.

However, the pro-life groups were rated unlikely to win early support from the 34 states needed to force the federal government to hold a constitutional convention on the issue.

The court's ruling held that a woman had an absolute right during the first three months of pre-

gnancy to decide whether or not she wanted an abortion.

The states were given the right to regulate abortions up to the seventh month of pregnancy and beyond that were empowered to ban all abortions except those needed to save the mother's life.

The "pro-choice" advocates yesterday produced a statement from the National Abortion Federation accusing the "pro-lifers" of trying to impose their religious and moral views on others.

Iran: Rough road ahead for recovery

TEHRAN, Jan. 23 (R) -- Getting Iran's economy back to work, whenever that happens, promises to be as painful as the events that brought it to a standstill.

Bankers and businessmen still fear that lack of some political settlement in the next few months could bring complete economic disintegration.

Even if this is averted, they say that only the process of recovery will reveal the full extent of the economic damage sustained in the disturbances that have just driven the Shah to leave the country.

In the public sector, the scale of the problem, if not the detail, is already evident. Loss of export revenue from the oil industry has been costing Iran more than \$450 million a week on top of losses in the last quarter of 1978 already estimated at over \$2 billion.

Foreign exchange reserves are reported by the central bank as still over \$10 billion, but it is conceded that this is a quite artificial figure.

No payment, for example, has been needed on the estimated \$3 billion worth of imports that have accumulated at Iran's customs posts, closed by strikes for most of the last three months.

The administrative chaos caused by strikes in all government departments had built up

a backlog of payments on government business that also runs to billions of dollars, and is driving Iran towards default on its international borrowings.

Finally, allowing for the 60-90 day time lag in oil payments, Iran has been continuing to receive oil revenues in recent weeks when there have been no oil exports.

But this will very shortly cease. Even when the political crisis eases and the government can function on more than a day-to-day basis, the business community expects months of confusion while the government sorts through the tangle of unpaid bills and uncollected taxes to produce some form of budget.

Heavy-handed cuts in development spending are inevitable. Some contracts individually worth hundreds of millions of dollars which took months of top level negotiation will be cancelled, while others will simply lie neglected.

Overall, however, this is not the main concern. In the last analysis, businessmen say, Iran is still rich in oil and other natural resources. As long as oil is exported, they argue, the government will have large amounts of money to dispose of. Loans to the state or state companies will be repaid, if not on the original schedule, and Iran will

still need roads, railways, electricity, houses and imported machinery.

Damage to private sector

But the hurt of the more frail, less protected private sector will take years to repair.

Manufacturers have almost all ceased to produce for want of fuel, power, or the materials held at customs. They have been unable to sell because of the prolonged closure of shops and bazaars in recent weeks and because the public is spending on only essential items.

The financial difficulties of industry have had a ripple effect which is putting considerable strain on the banking system. After several years of rapid expansion which saw commercial bank credit to the private sector jump from \$5.6 billion in 1973/74 to \$18.8 billion in 1977/78, repayment of debt has virtually ceased with the shutdown of industry.

At the same time, banks have faced a heavy run on deposits by the public. Their concern was first over the widespread damage inflicted on banks in civil disturbances and more recently the difficulty of getting cash from banks which had shut for weeks at

a time. As much as 25 per cent of bank deposits were pulled out in the three months up to about mid-December, according to one banker's estimates, and some of the smaller banks are reckoned to have suffered even bigger withdrawals.

The banks have been so short of cash that customers have not always been able to withdraw their funds at one time. For companies it has brought difficulties in obtaining cash for their payroll, in some cases forcing parent companies to supply the funds from overseas.

It is central bank policy not to allow the collapse of any bank, but there is no doubt in banking circles that some commercial banks are being kept alive only by central bank pumping in the cash.

While the economy has been thrown into disarray in just three months, it has not collapsed to the point where people are fighting for the essentials of life.

But the present situation cannot be maintained for many more weeks, economists warn. If industry remains closed, government paralysed by strikes and the treasury starved of oil revenues, there may be a slide to real hardship for the mass of the population with possible further political trouble.

Economic pressures are combining to squeeze the ordinary American as never before. This is reflected in the demand to cut government waste, the search for inflation hedges and attempts to reduce the soaring cost of medical care.

paid for a catastrophic illness, like a stroke or cancer. The prices of most commodities in the United States are among the lowest in the developed world. But health care has always been an exception, and medical costs have doubled in the last five years. Even with insurance, a long-term illness requiring extensive hospital or nursing home care can ruin even a moderately wealthy family.

So there is growing pressure for a national health scheme available to all -- only the aged qualify for the present Medicaid assistance. The powerful American Medical Association will fight to the end to prevent such a law. And Senator Edmund Muskie, chairman of the powerful Senate Budget Committee, although a liberal and a democrat, has warned that such a programme will have to be studied carefully, with much of its cost to come out of savings in other departments of government. Such a plan is at least two years away, and could be delayed much longer if a strongly republican Congress is returned at the end of 1980.

Meanwhile, the rich tend to get richer and the poor poorer. There are huge pockets of poverty even in prosperous cities. For example, a coordinated drive is to be made by the various social and welfare agencies on an area of East Baltimore housing 50,000 persons. Half of that total is entirely dependent on state welfare hand-outs.

But while the great American dream of unlimited opportunity for every man to get ahead by his own efforts has been tarnished, it is by no means dead.

A public opinion poll on the desirability of a wealth tax indicated that the man in the street was firmly opposed to it, even though the proposal would not affect 80 per cent of the population.

Said a tax expert: "It shows that the ordinary man still believes he can go ahead and make a million dollars on his own."

Financial Times News-Features

World News Briefs

Moroccan MP charged with drug smuggling

RABAT, Jan. 23 (R) -- Seventy-eight people, including a parliament member, went on trial here yesterday on charges of a major drug smuggling ring which exported over 20 tons of concentrated marijuana. The parliamentarian is Abdelhak Benjannet, a member for Targuist in north Morocco's Rif Mountains. The prosecution alleges that the marijuana, disguised as chocolates and biscuits, was smuggled in the Mediterranean port of Al Hoceima in fishing boats owned by the accused.

U.S. to increase military aid to Thailand

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (R) -- The United States will increase its military assistance to Thailand to help it combat Vietnamese-led insurgency in Kampuchea (Cambodia). The State Department said yesterday. Spokesman Hodding Carter said the United States had decided to make what he called a "small" \$24 million military assistance programme already in the budget year which ends on Sept. 30.

Unusual mushroom 'devoours' Japanese

SAPPORO, Japan, Jan. 23 (R) -- *Mitidius Lucorum* march and bursting into tears as it eats houses on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido. A pest control firm, called in by householders to wipe out the marauding *Mitidius*, known as the tear mushroom -- said it had so far damaged the mushroom, which oozes tears of wood-rotting liquid had a field day since 1973 oil crisis. Builders are now insulating Japanese homes, raising the temperature producing ideal propagating conditions.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SYSAG

URROF

TORMAR

YARBK

Now arrange the circles from the squares above to form the words.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: KETCH BRAND FABRIC

Answer: Rather old-fashioned brothers "BRETHREN"

THE Daily Crossword

ACROSS

1 Eban

5 Puts away for later

10 Not many

14 Actress

15 Conscious

16 Assassinate

17 Country-wide abbr.

18 Miraculous food

19 Character

20 Unquestionable source

23 "Yellow Brick" --

24 "The Lady -- Tiger" --

25 Spice

27 Alter

30 -- me

31 Exclusive club

33 "Ukulele" post

36 Great in the 20s

39 Ad -- com-mitte

40 Igneous rock

41 Contraction

42 Las Vegas item

43 Atop

44 Moral system

47 Family or shoe

49 Pusillart

50 Connect

55 Rows

57 "I comy" as "comy"

60 Tie device

61 Quire

62 Lab event

63 "Looking at you"

64 Ragout

DOWN

1 Cape

2 Rhythm

3 After bird

4 Susceptible

5 Shoo

6 Oscar

7 Trucks

8 Sea bird

9 Vest ex-

10 Separate

11 Vault

12 Planet

13 Virginia

14 sign of

15 Declaration

16 Markham

17 man's tool

18 is moody

19 London area

20 Guinness

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